

VOL. I—NO. 15

PHILADELPHIA, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1914.

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PRICE ONE CENT

VARE ADMITS BAD WORK AT ISLAND PARK

Walls' Demolition to Make Way for Park Practically a Confession to Faulty Construction.

"Safe Bet No Dynamite Will Be Needed to Tear Them Apart," Veteran Building Wrecker Declares.

Senator Edwin H. Vore, who constructed the "near concrete walls" in League Island Park at a cost of more than \$250,000 to the taxpayers, which three noted engineers condemned, was at last confessed his work was faulty, by his orders squads of laborers have torn down practically the entire structure. Only small parts of the cracked wall are still visible. Expenditures for the park thus far have been about \$1,500,000.

Laborers in the park frankly admitted today that demolishing the wall wasn't a difficult job. One man ventured to declare the job was the easiest he had encountered in years, because of the faulty material with which the structure was built.

Less than four months ago, after a board of experts assigned by Director Cooke, of the Department of Public Works, had submitted a report which stated that the walls were worthless because of many cracks, fissures and holes in them, Senator Vore made this defense:

"This wall is a handsome structure and there is nothing wrong."

In face of conclusive proof furnished by the experts, composed of such men as Frederick W. Taylor, of this city, formerly consulting engineer of the Midvale Steel Company; Richard L. Humphrey, president of the American Concrete Institute; and Allen Hazen, of the firm of Hazen & Whitney, consulting engineers of New York, Vore issued emphatic denials of their grave charges.

Later the Senator employed a corps of engineers whose identity was refused to make public. The engineers were detailed to make an inspection of the "near-concrete walls." The report of the Senator's private investigators was never made public.

The Senator has made many trips in his automobile down to League Island since the work of razing the walls was begun. The demolition, which many residents in South Philadelphia declare is a disgrace to this city, was begun last July.

From his automobile, workmen declared today, Senator Vore has had an excellent chance to view the cracked walls made of impurities. He also could see the worthless walks from that vantage point.

DYNAMITE NOT NEEDED. In the group of workmen detailed in the park this morning was a veteran building wrecker and all-around laborer. This man, who has worked on many municipal construction jobs, frankly declared that, owing to the poor gravel used, it was a safe bet that dynamite wouldn't be needed.

"The fellow who had the contract for putting these things up—I mean those walls—certainly must have seen his blunder by this time. Any man who has eyes can know a thing or two about concrete. I will say that there is something wrong with this job. Only a blind man couldn't tell the difference."

Senator Vore has the contract for proceeding with the work. He was given the contract last June, because his bid of \$500,000 was the lowest. It was learned today that one of the first orders by laborers and others detailed to tear down the walls was that the structure around the lagoons was defective. This fact was also pointed out by experts in their report.

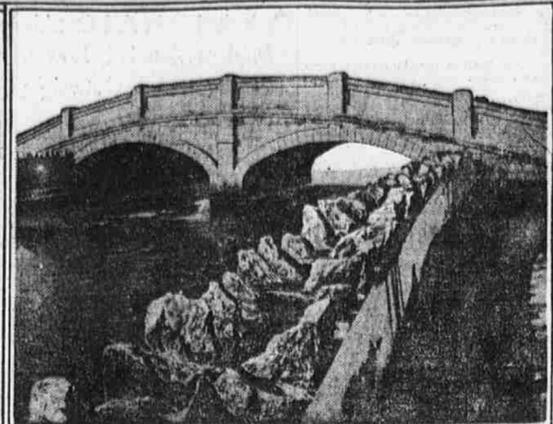
The three investigators, who pointed out the structure as a piece of patchwork, also brought forth proof to show that for concrete the contractor used an unapproved gravel, fairly well graded, but full of impurities, which tended to impair the quality of the concrete made from it. Another charge against the contractor was that the concrete was defective.

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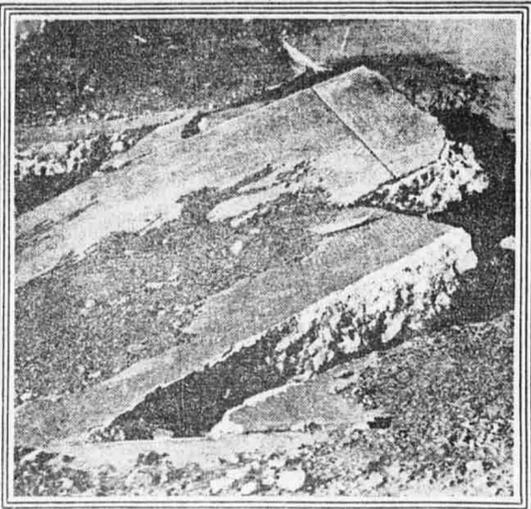
VARE CONFESSES ERROR BY DESTROYING CITY WORK HE DEFENDED



PART OF "NEAR CONCRETE" WALL DEFENDED BY EDWIN H. VARE. WALL IS NOW BEING TORN DOWN



THIS PHOTO TAKEN MAY 1914—BRIDGE HAS SINCE DISAPPEARED



BROKEN ASPHALT PAVEMENT



VARE "HANDSOMEST WALL" WHICH HE IS NOW TEARING DOWN

BLOODHOUNDS PUT ON TRAIL OF SLAYER OF 18-YEAR-OLD GIRL

Bucks County Authorities Reinforced by State Police Keep Up Energetic Man Hunt.

Bloodhounds from the Eastern Pennsylvania were taken to Buckingham Valley today in an attempt to run down John Cope, who shot and killed his niece, Florence Cope, 18 years old, last Monday night. District Attorney Calvin S. Boyer also went to the scene of the tragedy today and now is in personal charge of the man hunt.

Equipped by the failure of their 12-hour search, authorities of Bucks County and armed farmers today are systematically leaving the woods of Buckingham Mountain and drugging the streams and streams of the mountains.

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HUNT CLUB HAS FIRST SPORT OF THE SEASON

Members Start Across Country Today, But Reynard Gets Away. Huntsmen and huntswomen, members of the White Marsh Valley Hunt Club, had their first sport of the season early this morning. With James G. Leiber as master of hounds, about 15 other members started across country after the hounds shortly after the break of day. The return was made before breakfast. While the sport was thoroughly enjoyed, the members had little luck as "Master Reynard" managed to keep himself well away from the hounds.

The regular season of the White Marsh Valley Hunt Club begins after the races next Saturday, and hunts will continue until, December. According to the schedule they will run each Wednesday and Saturday and on holidays, including Columbus Day, Election Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas.

WAR'S HORRORS INEVITABLE WHEN MEN TURN TIGERS

George Wharton Pepper Thinks Atrocities Bound to Occur in Strife. George Wharton Pepper, prominent Pennsylvania politician, an authority on foreign law and an attorney, expressed the opinion today that atrocities in war are inevitable. He said that in war men are driven to do things that they would never do in peace.

New York to Have Series

NEW YORK, Sept. 30.—Dennis Higgins, the contrary, it was announced yesterday that the post-season series between the New York National and American League clubs would take place this fall. The first game is scheduled for October 5, one day before the opening of the world's series.

BROTHERS

Like sick to one another. Have you heard the story that is on the rounds—heard it told at the hotel last night—about Jenkins of somewhere, one old story?

GIRARD COLLEGE STUDENTS ESCAPE; ONE IS CAPTURED

Orphan, Seeking Adventure, Very Hungry, Slept Under Stars—Little Pal Yet Missing. Perforated and shivering, hungry and tired, a little boy who ran away from Girard College on Monday to seek adventure was found early today huddled in the shadow of the doorpost at 23rd street and Montgomery avenue. Policeman Humphreys, who saw the child, wrapped his coat about him and took the boy to the 23rd and Oxford streets station.

There the little runaway said he was John Hand and admitted with a touch of pride the weight of 11 years resting on his shoulders. He had sealed the wall surrounding the college grounds with Francis Croft, 13 years old, another inmate of the institution, and the two determined to see "life." The other lad is now being sought by the police. Hand said he left his companion asleep in a vacant lot near the place he had been found.

The two boys had 40 cents between them when they climbed over the wall. One-fourth of this was spent before they were out of the college grounds a half hour, when a lurid motion picture advertisement made out of heroic deeds on Western plains attracted the young adventurers.

Reading that 30 cents would not keep them in food very long, they satisfied their future cravings for excitement by merely looking at bill boards instead of going in the "movies." At night they slept in vacant lots.

Negro Burglars Sentenced

Samuel Worthington, alias Jones, a Negro 130 Smedley street, arraigned for a month in the House of Correction today by Magistrate Morris. The police believe he is responsible for numerous robberies which have occurred in the northwestern portion of the city. A complete set of burglar's tools was found in his house.

KENNEY'S NIGHT CONCERT STIRRED FAMILY'S IRE

2 A. M. Recital Brings the Police and Peace Fellows Discord. Discord has given way to harmony in the Kenney family.

Although there will be no more early morning concerts at the Kenney home, 521 Rockland street, Germantown, the neighbors are happy. The discord was due to the musical ambitions of Walter Kenney. Other members of his family did not agree with Walter regarding his musical capacities. They contended that he struck what musicians call "blue" notes. The neighbors agreed with them and the whole region seemed to feel the same color.

Difference of opinion between Walter Kenney, his relatives and the neighbors was responsible for sending him to the House of Correction. Kenney's musical inspirations become especially emphatic about 3 o'clock in the morning, for that's when he plays longest and loudest. He attributes this to the eccentricities of genius. Kenney attempted everything from rhapsody to Chopin's Funeral March, this morning, but when this latter selection filled the air the musician's father and brother tried to drag the performer from the parlor organ. Kenney struck a few notes and then a few relatives.

Two policemen took Kenney to the Germantown police station, and when Magistrate Penneck heard of Kenney's habits there was much sympathy in his mind as he looked at the other battered members of the Kenney family. But there was no sympathy for Kenney, the prisoner. "I'll give you five days in the House of Correction," he said.

THE WEATHER

Official Forecast For Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey—Fair tonight and probably Thursday; not much change in temperature; moderate west winds. There has been a general decrease in pressure during the last 24 hours, especially in New England and the Middle Atlantic states, and as a result there has been a change to warmer weather in all districts except the Upper Lake region and the extreme Southeast. A disturbance that is central this morning over Pennsylvania, Pa., and the western New York State and most of New England. The Gulf storm has moved a little farther northward, the center being south of Pennsylvania, Pa., and the resultant rain and squalls practically all of the eastern half of the cotton belt. Fair weather has prevailed in other parts of the country.

U. S. Weather Bureau Bulletin

Table with columns for Station, Wind, Rain, Clouds, and other weather data for various locations.

PENROSE AT DESK IN SENATE; IF YOU DOUBT, SEE MOVIES

Pictures Entertain Show Patrons, Films Costing Him \$100 a Week Being Furnished Free by Candidate. Senator Penrose is entertaining the "movie fans" of Pennsylvania. He is paying the cost of keeping on the screens of motion picture houses in all parts of the State 30 prints of a 700-foot film, which are now in their second week of showing the senator Senator in various activities.

The films show him actually in Washington, seated at his desk in his office there, riding to the Capitol in a carriage, and entering the Senate wing of the Capitol, and they show him campaigning at the National Guard encampment at Mt. Gretna, and on the stump in the western part of the State.

"The Prosperity Film Exchange," which is really only Martin Gauder, an employee of the Mutual Film Corporation, of 292 Filbert street, has charge of the distribution. Invitations to avail themselves of the Penrose free-film service have been sent to all motion picture home managers who favor Penrose's candidacy, said Gauder today.

"They have passed their 20th performance, he said, and have been shown all the way from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh before audiences aggregating nearly 1,000,000 persons. They are on the program of two or three theaters in Philadelphia and in many in Pittsburgh every day, Gauder said.

"What does it cost the managers to show this film?" Gauder was asked. "Nothing," he answered. "Senator Penrose pays all of the cost. When we send them updates, though, the managers have to pay express charges for the way."

It is costing Senator Penrose more than \$100 a week for distribution, he said. The film cost about 10 cents a foot to manufacture. Penrose said this bill, said Gauder, and is many in Pittsburgh every day, Gauder said.

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GRAB INCLUDES PLAN TO SEIZE CITY HALL SUITE

Rooms Occupied by Police Coveted by Municipal Court Pending \$2,000,000 Land Purchase.

Project Germinated Last April When Ouster of State Fencibles From Armory Appeared Imminent.

Not content with their land-grabbing plans for \$2,000,000 court buildings at 21st and Race streets, officials of the Municipal Court, through the Penrose-McNichol-controlled Councils, will attempt the seizure of the east corridor on the sixth floor of City Hall to accommodate them while the grabbing plans are being jammed through. If the State Fencibles are ousted from their armory on Broad street below Race and the Central police station takes that place, the Municipal Court will get the east corridor, according to those with the eyes on the more spacious quarters. President Judge Charles A. Brown admitted the truth of this to Emanuel Furth, attorney for the Fencibles, when Furth, who had heard the rumor, taxed him with it two weeks ago. Those familiar with the situation say City Hall's east corridor is coveted by the Municipal Court as a shelter until the fate of the land grab is decided.

PLAN AND ITS ORIGIN The court's plans to seize the sixth floor corridor have a double significance, however. It developed today that the Municipal Court and the Penrose-McNichol Councilman leaders had their eyes on a site for the Municipal Court as long ago as last April, more than a month before Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. Jurist thought of the Magdalen Home property and passed on the idea to Judge Brown.

That the bacillus of a plan the size of the land scheme appeared first in the minds of Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. Jurist has surprised those who know the long-headed politician and his habit of searching the horizon for the main chance. Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. Jurist resent any suggestion that the thought of the land scheme was not original with them.

But there was a plan to care for the Municipal Court before Mrs. Jurist and Mrs. Richardson set it in motion. Councilman Emanuel Furth last April said that he would do well not to press his fight against dislodging the Fencibles. They said he ought to wait until the fall.

Only last Saturday, when he read that the Municipal Court planned a grab at 21st and Race streets, did he see why he was advising to wait until now. Now, he believes, the Municipal Court may want the sixth floor corridor at City Hall until there is a better outlook for the land-grabbing scheme.

FENCIBLES' PLEA IGNORED. The State Fencibles' lease on the armory expired March 1. Furth appealed to the joint Councilman Committee on City Property at a meeting April 2 and secured a recommendation for a renewal of the lease for two years. Then he looked to Councilman Brown for the recommendation. But the recommendation remained buried in committee.

Through April Furth went about asking Councilmen to bring the renewal matter into the meeting. He was told that it would be better to let the business be quietly handled as "Fence" by the Council. Furth told him, but meanwhile the City Solicitor had begun an amicable ejectment action and the Fencibles' tenure in their armory was growing more and more precarious.

Then Councils adjourned without acting on the lease for the Fencibles. If the City Solicitor's action was effective the Fencibles would be ejected from the armory only by the action of Councils renewing the lease.

Last Thursday Furth met John P. Connelley, head of the Council's Finance Committee. He asked when Councils would do something about renewing the lease. "I don't want your old armory," said Connelley.

"But the City Solicitor's action is going to have us out if you don't do something," Furth protested. On the following Monday Judge P. Amelio Breyer was to have heard a second appeal from Furth for the Fencibles. "Well, Connelly told him, 'you go tell DeMott that I said for him to slow up.' DeMott was the Assistant City Solicitor in charge of the ejectment proceedings."

"If I tell him that he'll think I'm representing myself," Furth objected. "Well, tell them, say him to me and I'll tell DeMott," Connelly said. Furth wrote DeMott, asking him to see Connelly. But when he met DeMott in court on Monday he learned that the Assistant City Solicitor and Councils had not discussed the ejectment. "We don't want to be mixed up in that kind of a thing," was DeMott's explanation.

THE LAWYER AND THE JUDGE

The conversation was heated at first. It ran like this, according to Furth: "Now look here, Charlie, I know you're anxious to take that corridor for the court. I've heard it on good authority, and I've no use saying that isn't the idea."

"Well, look at the court here," said Judge Brown, with an air of exasperation. "We've crowded and every one knows it. It's not interested in what the court does except as a citizen," Furth replied, but the building on Race street, below Broad, that is being razed now as a junk shop, would be very much better for the police than the Fencibles' armory. Then he explained that the police could throw a bridge across from the rear of the building on Race street, which would be a first headquarters to the Fencibles' armory, which would then be available as a gymnasium for the district users.

This appealed to Judge Brown, who was a good lawyer, according to Furth, and talk grew less acrimonious. "That's all right," Brown admitted freely. "The sixth floor corridor was the aim of the..."

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